

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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STAMPED CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, 1901. Total circulation, 17,000...

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of December, 1901.

A big eastern coal mining company has gone broke. Its officers can now appreciate better how many people feel who are compelled to buy coal.

The city advisory board has entered into a contract for ice for the coming season at \$8 per ton.

Omaha needs a market house, but it must be commensurate to the demands of a city of its population and pretensions.

The fight on the Northern Pacific and Burlington merger does not seem to prevent the Burlington from annexing other railroads to fill the gaps in its transmississippi system.

What is the county treasurer going to do about the interest earned on deposits of county money for the coming year?

One of the principal issues of the pending campaign in the Choctaw county is the many, varied and extensive fees paid to attorneys.

People who fail to see the fine distinction between the man who steals \$5 and the man who steals \$500,000 may not be expressing themselves very loudly upon the Bartley pardon, but they are doing a heap of thinking.

The president has called for the resignation of another prominent federal official for violation of the civil service law.

There is no position within reach of an American citizen greater than that of president of the United States, except that of president of an international exposition.

Congressman Mercer and Mayor Kelly of South Omaha have been in close conference fixing up a defensive and offensive alliance.

Nebraska teachers in attendance upon the meeting of their state association have remarked upon the absence of Superintendent Pearce this year.

The Jacksonian club will hold its banquet on the Kansas City platform used by the late democratic national convention.

Almost \$8,000,000 was clipped from the public debt during the past month.

NEBRASKA AND DAKOTA PARDONS.

On the first day of January Governor Savage issued an unconditional pardon to the defaulting state treasurer of Nebraska. On the following day the governor of South Dakota issued an unconditional pardon to a defaulting county auditor of South Dakota.

The state treasurer of Nebraska was convicted of deliberately appropriating to his own use a state warrant amounting to over \$180,000, while his actual default would exceed \$750,000, with the interest computed to the end of last year.

The Nebraska governor commuted the sentence of the state treasury wrecker from twenty years to three and one-half years. The South Dakota governor commuted the sentence of the defaulting county auditor from five years to two and one-fourth years.

The exercise of executive clemency to the South Dakota defaulter was preceded by the restitution by himself and his bondsmen of every dollar that he had embezzled.

In the exercise of executive clemency the governor of Nebraska pretends to have acted upon a petition signed by the beneficiaries and side partners of the embezzler and a sympathetic class of people who sign petitions indiscriminately.

The contrast between the South Dakota pardon and the Nebraska pardon is so striking that it scarcely justifies further comment.

STUEFER'S LATEST EXHIBIT.

State Treasurer Stuefer has published a statement of receipts and disbursements for the month of December, with an exhibit of the amounts in various depositories and the amount of uninvested school funds, which figure in his balance sheet as cash on hand.

Mr. Stuefer is credited with good business qualifications. He is responsible individually, and the sureties on his bond have guaranteed to protect the state against loss of public funds in his custody.

In view of the disclosure made two months ago that Mr. Stuefer had drawn checks on Omaha banks for \$80,000 of school money, these monthly statements of school money in the vaults of the treasury appear like a mere subterfuge.

Whether the New York legislature will carry out these recommendations is problematic, but it may safely be predicted that the Albany lobby will exhibit unusual activity during the legislative session.

Captain McCalla is devoting his share of the prize money secured in the Spanish war to the erection of a sailors' club house in San Francisco.

The Asphalt Paving trust, organized within the past eighteen months, by parties who had acquired a practical monopoly of asphalt paving in the principal cities of the country, was capitalized on a fictitious valuation based on future profits.

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PROTECTION CAN BE ASSURED BY THE BUILDING OF A NEW ENGINE HOUSE RATHER THAN BY THE ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL MODERN FIRE EQUIPMENT.

The Interstate Commerce commission, which is about to hold a session in Kansas City, proposes to create a sensation by making the grain elevator men and the grain dealers tell why they get lower freight rates than the ordinary grain shippers.

Recent efforts of eminent medical men to project themselves into public notice by alleged discoveries of the elixir of life would indicate that the ethics that prohibit doctors from paying for their advertising were not established in vain.

Several eastern railroads have issued notices that employes and officers of other lines will have the privilege of purchasing half rate tickets, but under no circumstance will any person connected with another road, from president down to the office boy, be given free transportation.

Another financial bubble has burst. The syndicate which attempted to consolidate a large number of street railway companies on a capital composed chiefly of wind has been unable to meet its engagements long enough to unload on a gullible public.

The new postmaster general has declared himself in favor of greatly extending the rural free mail delivery system. While much has already been accomplished in this direction, it is hardly a beginning on the immense field.

Chancellor Andrews expresses the opinion that the free text book system is not needed in the public schools above the grammar grades. The chancellor's experience as school superintendent in Chicago ought to enable him to speak on such a subject with some measure of authority.

In its Senate Days, Kansas City Journal. The democratic party in Cuba seems to be in as feeble a condition as the democratic party in the United States.

Among the circumstances that have tended to thin the ranks of populism is the fact that a large number of former advocates of the doctrine have since made money in oil or stocks.

There is one man who will do it difficult to swear off the first. This is Governor Shaw, who is said to be an abstemious man from drink, tobacco, profanity and all the minor vices.

There was at one time a disposition to rank Iowa as a fitting theme for bucolic life. But with two cabinet officers in Mr. Shaw and Mr. Wilson, an eminent and influential member of the senate in Mr. Allison and the speaker of the house of representatives all hailing from within its borders, Iowa has more than ordinary right to be honestly proud.

Speaker Henderson deserves the thanks of the country for his courage in enforcing the rule of the house which prohibits smoking while the house is in session. It has been a great discredit to our national house of representatives that smoking has been carried on more or less while the house is in session and when the galleries have been packed with visitors.

Yankomania Succeeds Anglomani. Indianapolis Journal. Anglomani, or a disposition on the part of a few persons in eastern cities to turn their backs upon the rest of the world and to remain in London, has, according to a writer in the January issue of the Forum, largely disappeared.

The new board of education will find a very pertinent pointer in an editorial on the need of genuine reform in the management of public schools and the necessity of judiciously pruning the system, published by a Chicago contemporary, which declares:

The school funds cost a large proportion of the money raised for schools. When the school authorities find that they have not income enough to pay for the expense of every day and freak they adopt they cry out at once that schools in the lower grades must be discontinued, or the young pupils dismissed, or the schools be made less efficient in some other way in the lower grades.

The proposed erection of a fire engine house in the jobbing district is doubtless desirable, but it is a serious question whether two engine houses are needed in the lower end of town.

The New York Stock Exchange record for 1901 was more than 247,000,000 shares, or about the "phenomenal" total in 1900 of 137,000,000.

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PANAMA OR NICARAGUA?

Baltimore American: There are many other advantages in favor of Panama which can be found recorded in the commission's report—in fact, it has been asserted that the report in favor of Nicaragua was for the purpose of forcing the Panama company to sell at a reasonable price if ever business considerations should prevail.

Philadelphia North American: The Isthmian Canal commission estimated definitely and specifically the cost of building a Nicaraguan canal at \$185,000,000, but before the work even ordered to be begun, we find senators and representatives regarding it as a job and figuring on an expenditure of anything from double the estimate to a round billion.

New York Sun: A saving of \$1,200,000 in annual charges is 4 per cent on a capital of \$2,500,000. Adding to this the item of \$5,500,700 in favor of Panama in the estimated cost of completion, we actually find that the Panama route would be \$38,000,000 cheaper than the Nicaraguan route.

Louisville Courier-Journal: The engineering estimates have been drawn up after very careful investigation and may be relied upon. Incidental questions must arise as to cost, but it would seem that the cheaper maintenance of the Panama route entitles it to favorable consideration.

Boston Transcript: This new opportunity comes at the eleventh hour, perhaps, but it comes before the other project has been definitely adopted.

Perry Belmont is making a warm campaign in New York district for a vacant seat in congress. The election takes place next Tuesday.

A statistician figures the chances of an American boy in politics reaching the presidency to be one in 30,000,000. Boys, look for another job.

Among United States government receipts last year were \$2,865,000 from the sale of public land, \$75,000 from penalties collected for depreciation on public lands and \$232,000 collected from the sale of seal skins.

There has been some controversy as to the identity of the youngest member of congress, but there is none as to the oldest in either branch. That distinction in the senate belongs to Pettus of Alabama, born in 1821, and in the house to Grover of Pennsylvania, born in 1825.

When the senate of Pennsylvania looked over the ruins of the burned capitol at Harrisburg a couple of years ago they concluded a \$500,000 building would maintain the dignity of the state. The latest plans submitted call for a \$5,000,000 structure, and it is likely to rival New York's costly pile before it is finished.

The state in which there are the least number of government pensioners is Nevada, in which they number only 275. There are 800 in Wyoming and 850 in Utah. Ohio and Pennsylvania together have 210,000—only 10,000 less than the total number of pensioners engaged in the federal service of the United States at home and abroad.

Connecticut is to consider amendments to the present antiquated constitution of the state and a convention will meet in January for the purpose. Of its 109 delegates, 121 are republicans and 44 democrats.

Secretary Hay was born in Illinois, Secretary Gage in Franklin county, New York, Secretary Root in Onondaga county, New York, Secretary Linn in Maine, Secretary Knox in Pennsylvania, Secretary Hitchcock in Alabama and Secretary Wilson in Scotland.

Major Low of New York believes publicity municipal affairs is a good thing. On taking office last Wednesday he said to the newspaper men: "It is my desire that the newspapers be afforded every opportunity to inform the public about every act of my administration. I believe in publicity in regard to municipal affairs, and I want the representatives of the newspapers to feel free to come to the mayor's office to ask about any matters in which the people of the city may be interested."

Large Men from Small Towns. New York Evening Post. We have great respect for the country banker who has carefully studied broad questions and worked out sound conclusions and who often understands far better than the city-bred man the feelings of the people and the best way of commanding their approval.

A Billion-Dollar Country. Chicago Chronicle. The New York Stock Exchange record for 1901 was more than 247,000,000 shares, or about the "phenomenal" total in 1900 of 137,000,000.

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OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The movement among representatives of capital and labor in the United States to promote better relations between these industrial forces by conciliation and arbitration gives timely interest to Australian measures having like ends in view.

Every industrial dispute can be referred to the court by the union or the registrar. Orders of the court may be enforced, as in New Zealand, by injunction or by fines levied on the corporate funds of the union and on the individual members, but they are also enforceable upon the declaration of a common law.

This gives the court power to declare that any practice, usage, condition of employment or industrial dealings shall, with such limitations and exceptions as the court may declare, become common law for all persons employed in the industry under review.

The German government has issued an edict dealing with the question of domestic slavery in South Africa. The object of the edict is to pave the way for the abolition of slavery, and, for that reason, the regulations are due to the fifteenth section of the code for the German protectorates.

Brooklyn Eagle: "How far is it from Irvington to Bridgeport?" inquired the chauffeur of the British embassy. "About forty-five miles as the flying machine flies," responded the man, leaning against the front of the street in a quiet, unassuming manner.

Baltimore American: "What does this mean?" inquired the Investigating Committee. "You have most of your shortage charged up to the street in a quiet, orderly and inoffensive manner and justice—Um—what tune were you whistling?"

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Would it be contrary to the rules of humane warfare?" "If what?" "If the Kaiser should fire a Humberger shell or two in the midst of those unsuspecting Venezuelans?"

Philadelphia Press: Mrs. Gaussup—I understand from Mrs. Lanky that your doctor has been guilty of conduct unbecoming a gentleman.

Chicago Inter Ocean. Should envious aliens plan and plot? And fight one with the other? Your Uncle Sam would surely not be so easily duped as to let them.

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PUBLICITY FOR THE TRUSTS.

Systematic Scrutiny Necessary for General Good. St. Louis Republic. In the figures now presented by the New York Journal of Commerce, showing the total capitalization of all industrial combinations in the United States to approximately \$1,600,000,000, it is found an additional reason for insistence upon publicity of trust affairs for the protection of investors and the general public.

To secure obedience to equity and law, the vast businesses carried on with this gigantic capitalization should be subjected to regular intervals. The evil of over-capitalization in question enjoy certain privileges which legitimately subject them to supervision similar to that of the affairs of banks.

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Waldock-Rousseau was supported by a vote of more than 4 to 1.

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